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GIPPING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1957

Sub E

B

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS .

(a) Medical Officer of Health.

KATHLEEN M. HARDING,
M.D., D.P.H., A.K.C.

(b) Chief Public Health Inspector.

E. A. MORGAN,
M.R.S.H., F.S.I.A.

(c) District Public Health Inspectors.

B. J. DAVIES,
C.R.S.I.

R. N. SPEIRS,
M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

GIPPING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Council Offices,
NEEDHAM MARKET,
Nr. Ipswich.

Telephone Nos.
Needham Market 236 & 282.



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GIPPING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1957

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1957.

Vital Statistics: The estimated population remains stationary. The Standardised Birth Rate has risen to 19.02 and it is now considerably higher than the rate for England and Wales (16.1). Only two deaths occurred in babies under the age of one year. Both were due to congenital malformations and therefore, in our present state of knowledge, unavoidable.

The Infant Mortality Rate has fallen to 5.95 per thousand live births. This is the lowest figure ever recorded since this Rural District was formed in 1934. The lowest figure previously reached was 12.1 in 1950. The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 23.0 in 1957.

There has also been a fall in the Stillbirth Rate from 16.44 to 8.85.

The Standardised Death Rate has fallen from 11.11 to 8.27.

Infectious Diseases: There was an epidemic of Measles during the early part of the year. Whooping Cough was also prevalent. Asian Influenza reached the District during the latter part of 1957. Most of the cases were mild, but six were complicated by Pneumonia.

Prophylaxis: It is interesting to note that more children were vaccinated against Smallpox than were immunised against Diphtheria during the year.

Twenty Years Ago:

Here are some figures taken from the 1937 Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Gipping. Beside them, for comparison, are similar figures for 1957.

	<u>1937</u>	<u>1957</u>
<u>Birth Rate</u> (per 1,000 population)	14.3	19.02
<u>Stillbirth Rate</u> (per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	30.0	8.85
<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u> (deaths of infants under one year per 1,000 live births)	50.0	5.95
<u>Standardised Death Rate</u> (per 1,000 population)	10.7	8.27
<u>Number of deaths from Tuberculosis</u>	8	nil
<u>T.B. Deaths per 1,000 population</u>	0.4	nil
<u>Number of deaths from Cancer</u>	31	46
<u>Cancer deaths per 1,000 population</u>	1.7	2.4

I think it is best to let these figures speak for themselves.

Many factors went towards making 1957 a healthier year than 1937. There was better housing, a higher standard of living and improved nutrition. Standards of personal hygiene improved. Health Workers helped to secure a better way of life for infants, mothers and school children. The National Health Service Act made medical care readily available for all those who needed it. Research workers discovered new drugs and Hospitals developed new methods of treatment to overcome diseases which had hitherto been deadly. Tuberculosis workers went out to search for the disease instead of waiting for it to come to them. Immunisation procedures were developed to secure the protection of young children from Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tuberculosis and Poliomyelitis. All these and many other things too numerous to mention have contributed towards the Public Health and this District Council,

.....by virtue of

.... /Council,

by virtue of every phase of its work has played its part in bringing about this striking improvement in the health of the Community which it serves.

In conclusion I should like to express my appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and support. I should like to thank all officers and members of the staff for their help at various times and in particular Mr. Morgan and the staff of the Health Department.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

K. M. HARDING

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	78,464 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)				19,260
Inhabited houses	...	...	...	6,310
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£139,173
Sum represented by a Penny Rate			...	£566

BIRTHS

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total	...	176	160	336
Legitimate	...	169	151	320
Illegitimate	...	7	9	16

STILLBIRTHS

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total	...	3	-	3
Legitimate	...	3	-	3
Illegitimate	...	-	-	-

LIVE BIRTH RATE

Crude birth rate per 1,000 population...	...	17.45
Comparability factor..	...	1.09
Standardised birth rate	...	19.02
Birth rate England and Wales...	...	16.1
Stillbirth rate (per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	...	8.85
Stillbirth rate England and Wales	...	22.4

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one year:

			<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total	...	...	2	-	2
Legitimate...	...	...	2	-	2
Illegitimate.	...	...	-	-	-

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	5.95
Infant mortality rate England and Wales	...	23.0

Causes of death of infants under one year of age

Congenital Malformation	...	...	...	2
-------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

Deaths of infants under four weeks of age

				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total	...	...	...	-	-	-
Legitimate...	...	...	...	-	-	-
Illegitimate.	...	...	...	-	-	-

DEATHS

All causes	Total	270
	Male	162
	Female	108

Crude death rate per 1,000 of population	...	14.02
Comparability factor..	...	0.59
Standardised death rate.	...	8.27
Death Rate England and Wales...	...	11.5

COMPARATIVE STATISTICAL TABLE FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Estimated Population	19,120	19,280	19,410	19,310	19,220	19,260
Live Births	311	292	341	303	307	336
Crude Birth Rate	16.3	15.1	17.6	15.69	15.97	17.45
Standardised Birth Rate	17.6	16.3	19.3	17.26	17.57	19.02
Total Infant Deaths (under one year)	13	3	7	11	9	2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	41.8	15.6	20.5	36.30	29.31	5.95
Total Deaths	196	254	274	263	281	270
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	10.3	13.2	14.2	13.62	14.62	14.02
Standardised Death Rate	8.9	11.4	12.3	11.85	11.11	8.27

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH DURING PAST SIX YEARS

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Diseases of Cardiac and circulatory systems (including Cerebral Haemorrhage)	100	126	163	152	177	167
Cancer	22	53	44	46	46	46
Diseases of Respiratory system (excluding Tuberculosis)	10	22	16	13	12	15
Suicide and other violent causes	11	12	10	13	14	5
Tuberculosis	4	3	nil	1	1	nil

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH (REGISTRAR GENERAL'S FIGURES)

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1957</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1956</u>
1. Tuberculosis - respiratory	-	-	-	1
2. Tuberculosis - other	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	2	-	2	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
6. Other infective or parasitic diseases	1	-	1	-
7. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	1	7	8
8. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	2	9	11
9. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4	4	4
10. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1	-
11. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	14	11	25	23
12. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	1	1

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1957</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1956</u>
13. Diabetes	1	1	2	1
14. Vascular lesions of nervous system	23	11	34	44
15. Coronary disease, angina	18	13	31	37
16. Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2	8
17. Other heart disease	48	46	94	79
18. Other circulatory disease	5	4	9	9
19. Influenza	5	1	6	4
20. Pneumonia	8	2	10	6
21. Bronchitis	3	1	4	5
22. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1	1
23. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	-	3	-
24. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1	1
25. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1	-
26. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-	3
27. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-	-
28. Congenital malformations	2	-	2	4
29. Other defined and ill defined diseases	9	6	15	17
30. Motor Vehicle accidents	1	-	1	3
31. All other accidents	2	-	2	6
32. Suicide	2	-	2	5
Totals	162	108	270	281

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS)
PERIOD DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES - 1957.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals
Scarlet Fever	2	1	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Whooping Cough	2	4	9	11	1	6	12	3	3	-	11	5	67
Measles	30	66	47	24	24	5	13	29	2	-	-	-	240
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Polomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	9
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Acute Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	1	7
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Totals	34	73	59	37	29	11	25	33	8	4	14	8	335

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES - 1957

Disease	Age in years											Totals
	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65+	Not known
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	4	5	9	7	9	25	6	-	1	1	-	67
Measles	2	15	27	16	23	137	12	3	3	1	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	3	2	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	3	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Totals	6	20	37	23	32	167	24	8	6	5	5	2
												335

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE TOTALS FOR PAST SIX YEARS

Disease	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Scarlet Fever	34	14	14	18	5	8
Whooping Cough	32	26	68	49	2	67
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	144	389	6	128	104	240
Acute Pneumonia	9	11	-	2	-	7
Meningococcal Infection	-	2	1	-	-	-
Polioomyelitis	3	1	5	1	1	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	2	-
Dysentery	1	2	1	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	2	2	1	1	1
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	2	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	3	-	6	7	-	9
Erysipelas	3	2	-	-	-	2
Malaria	-	1	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	20	1	8	2	-	1

TUBERCULOSIS

(1) New cases notified:

Pulmonary (Lungs) ... 3 Males 1 Female

Non-Pulmonary (Glands, bones
 joints etc) ... 2 Males 4 Females

(2) Ages of new cases:

Pulmonary: Males 43; 56; 57. Females 50.

Non-Pulmonary: Males 14; 26. Females 15; 17; 45; 55.

(3) Occupations of new cases:

Bricklayer 1; Carpenter 1; Dressmaker 1; Housewives 3;
Labourer 1; School 2; Tractor Driver 1.

(4) Inward Transfers:

Pulmonary: Males 2 Females 1.

Non-Pulmonary: Males 1.

(5) Cases crossed off register as recovered during the year:

Pulmonary: Males 5 Females 5.

Non-Pulmonary: Males - Females 1.

(6) Died during the year: Nil

(7) Outward Transfers:

Pulmonary: Males 2.

(8) Cases on register at end of year:

Pulmonary: Males 41 Females 22.

Non-Pulmonary: Males 14 Females 19.

(9) Statistics for past six years:

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Primary Notifications	13	13	7	7	8	10
Transfers In	4	11	5	nil	6	4
Notification Rate per 1,000 population	0.68	0.67	0.36	0.36	0.42	0.52
Deaths	4	3	nil	1	1	nil
Death Rate per 1,000 population	0.20	0.15	nil	0.05	0.05	nil

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Figures for diphtheria immunisation are no longer available as percentage of children in the area but the actual figures are as follows. (Figures kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health).

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of children receiving primary immunisation in 1957 | ... | 185 |
| (2) Number of children receiving boosters in 1957 | | 217 |

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

- | | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of children receiving primary vaccination in 1957 | ... | 202 |
| (2) Number of children receiving revaccination in 1957 | ... | 53 |

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action was taken under Section 47 of this Act during the year.

WELL WATER CYANOSIS

Number of samples taken in 1957...	...	32
Number considered safe...	...	22
Number considered doubtful	...	7
Number considered unsafe.	...	3

In all cases where the supply was not reported as safe the persons concerned were advised where they could obtain an alternative supply.

WATER SUPPLIES

(A) Public Supplies

Bacteriological Examination.

1. Mains water, both that supplied by other Local Authorities and our own supplies, was found to be satisfactory.
2. Public Borewells: Five samples taken, 4 were satisfactory and 1 very suspicious. The latter supply is no longer used as a mains supply is available.
3. Public Shallow Wells: One sample taken and satisfactory.
A mains supply is also available here.

Chemical Analysis:

12 samples were taken. In each of these samples the water was reported to be of good organic quality with no evidence of pollution.

(B) Private Supplies

Bacteriological Examination

1. Private Mains - one sample taken and found to be satisfactory.
2. Borewells: 8 borewells were sampled of which 7 were satisfactory. The remaining borewell was reported as doubtful on first sampling, but after storage tanks, pump etc., were cleansed two further samples were both satisfactory.
3. Deep Wells: 12 samples were taken. 6 were satisfactory, 1 unsatisfactory and 5 very unsatisfactory.
4. Shallow Wells: 34 supplies were sampled and of these 11 were satisfactory, 8 suspicious, 7 unsatisfactory and 8 very unsatisfactory on first sampling. One suspicious supply became satisfactory and two were reported unsatisfactory when re-sampled. One of the very unsatisfactory supplies was filtered and a sample of the filtered water was reported satisfactory.
5. Ponds: One sampled and reported unsatisfactory.

- (C) The number of dwelling houses supplied from public mains is given below according to parish distribution.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Laid on to properties</u>	<u>Taken from standpipes</u>
Ashbocking	20	26
Ashfield-cum-Thorpe	40	-
Barham	29	13
Barking	79	-
Bettisford	72	-
Baylham	48	-
Bramford	372	-
Buxhall	117	-
Claydon	114	-
Coddenham	101	-
Combs	136	-
Creeping St. Mary	58	25

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Laid on to properties</u>	<u>Taken from standpipes</u>
Crowfield	40	31
Debenham	209	45
Flowton	13	-
Framsden	19	-
Gipping	24	-
Gosbeck	27	12
Gt. Blakenham	70	-
Gt. Bricett	28	16
Gt. Finborough	89	3
Harleston	26	-
Haughley	255	34
Hemingstone	1	3
Henley	10	9
Lt. Blakenham	18	-
Lt. Finborough	5	-
Mickfield	17	18
Needham Market	384	3
Nettlestead	20	-
Old Newton	138	-
Offton	49	-
Onehouse	84	-
Pettaugh	32	14
Ringshall	67	-
Shelland	25	-
Somersham	31	-
Stonham Aspal	70	61
Stonham Earl	10	10
Stonham Parva	48	47
Stowupland	285	-
Wetherden	114	-
Willisham	41	-
Winston	37	9
Totals	<u>3,473</u>	<u>379</u>

FOOD

108 inspections of registered food premises were made during the year. Attention was directed to effecting much needed improvements in connection with food hygiene, particularly in connection with structural conditions. Priority has been given to securing compliance with the requirements of the regulations in those parishes which have now been provided with both mains water supply and sewerage systems and, whilst much remains to be done, satisfactory progress has been achieved. Statistics relating to registrations under Food & Drugs Act are as follows:-

Ice Cream - 42; Sausages, etc. - 5; Fish frying - 10.

There are 9 registered dairies in the area.

The number of food premises in the district are as follows:-

General Stores	...	...	...	67
Butchers	...	...	...	14
Bakers & Confectioners	...	...	...	7
Fishmongers (inc. Fish & Chips).	...	...	...	10
Greengrocers..	...	...	...	1
Dairies.	...	...	...	9
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	10
Licensed Premises...	...	...	...	60
Works Canteens	...	...	...	4
School Canteens	...	...	...	32
Bacon Factory.	...	...	...	1
				<u>215</u>

Meat inspection statistics are given below:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	802	131	33	457	20,357
Number inspected	802	131	33	457	20,357
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	2	-	79
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	58	40	-	87	5,385
Percentage of the number inspected effected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ..	7.36	30.53	6.06	17.90	26.84

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	-	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	26	13	-	-	640
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	3.62	9.92	-	-	3.15
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Freshly slaughtered meat found to be unsound at the time of inspection is stained with green dye and collected for processing by Contractors. Other foods are deeply buried in the Council's refuse disposal pit.

The only other items of food found to be unsound during the year were 4 - 4lbs tins of Pork Luncheon Meat, 2 - 6 lbs tins and 1 - 12oz tin Corned beef and 74lbs 5oz of ice cream and lollies which were contaminated by the pitch lining of a refrigerator which had recently been serviced.

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

By agreement with the East Suffolk County Council, Sanitary Officers of the County Council are responsible for the routine sampling for examination of all milk supplied in this Rural District. In cases where infection is found restraint notices are served.

Number of samples taken by County Council	...	58
Number found to contain tubercle bacilli	...	nil
Number found to contain brucella organisms	...	2

FOOD POISONING

1. Notifications (corrected) returned to Registrar General.

1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Total
3	2	3	1	9

2. Outbreaks due to identified agents

Total outbreaks - 2 Total cases - 5

Outbreaks due to:-

(a) Chemical Poisons	Nil
(b) Salmonella Organisms	One
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin)	One
(d) Cl. botulinum	Nil
(e) Other bacteria	Nil

3. Outbreaks of undiscovered cause

Total outbreaks - Nil Total cases - Nil

4. Single Cases

Agent identified - 4 (Salmonella Typhimurium in each case)

Unknown cause - Nil Total cases - 4

HOUSING

Summary of Housing Activities

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	128
Number found to be unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	105
Number rendered fit by (a) informal action..	...	...	...	...	22
	(b) action under Public				
	Health Act...				-
	(c) action under Housing				
	Act...				-
Number of Demolition Orders secured...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Dwellings included in Clearance					
	Areas secured	...	...	...	-
Number of Dwellings demolished under					
	Demolition Orders..	...	...	...	-
Number of Dwellings demolished under					
	Clearance Orders..	...	...	...	-

Number of Dwellings in respect of which			
Closing Orders were made...	...	...	6
Number of cases of Overcrowding known			
to exist at the end of 1957..	...	...	16
Housing Act, 1949. - Number of Improvement			
Grants approved ...	...	...	31

I am indebted to Mr. J. Black, Engineer & Surveyor, for the following two reports:-

During the year under review the Housing Statistics for the Rural District were as follows:-

(a) <u>Council Houses.</u>	
Completed	16
Under construction	16
Total completed (post-war)	538
(b) <u>Private Houses (Permanent)</u>	
Completed	29
Under construction	21
Total completed (post-war)	250
(c) <u>Private Houses (Temporary)</u>	
Completed	nil
Under construction	nil
Total completed (post-war)	26

Grand total of Housing Units completed in the post-war period to 31st December, 1957, is therefore 814.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The year 1957 saw the completion of the second comprehensive and modern sewage disposal works in the Rural District - Needham Market.

The position at the end of the year was as follows:-

Completed

Whole parish scheme	...	...	...	Debenham. Needham Market.
Modernisation of works...	...	...	...	Haughley.
Part-parish scheme.	...	...	...	Stowupland.

Contemplated

Additional sewers	...	...	...	Stowupland.
Whole parish scheme	...	...	...	Bramford.
Whole parish scheme	...	...	...	Claydon &c.
Whole parish scheme	...	...	...	Stonham Aspal.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1948.

Number of factories with mechanical power...	...	70
Number of factories without mechanical power	...	7
Other premises - electrical station and building sites...		7
Number of inspections made		37
Number of defects found...		nil

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